

Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Children and Families Commission Of Orange County

California Children and Families Commission School Readiness Program Phase 1A Application

October 15, 2001

Part III: Participating School(s) - Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Schools Please list the names and CDS codes of all the schools included in the School Readiness Program/System. Each school should be a qualifying (i.e., high priority) school per the Guidelines for the RFF. (Note: The first school listed on this form may be used by CCFC for the purpose of Application identification.)

CDS Code*	District and School	Enrollment	Grade Span	% students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals	% enrolled students that are English Language Learners	** Current II/USP or CSRD school or IASA Schoolwide	Current API (Academic Performance Index)
30-66597-6029-516	NMUSD - Whittier	644	K-3	100%	79%	II/USP CSRD IASA	3
30-66597-6029-524	NMUSD - Wilson	649	K-5	100%	77%	IASA	1
				%	%		
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				%	%		

* CDE County (2 digits) - District (5 digits) - School (7 digits) coding system as published in the California Public School Directory. (Example: 01 61119 Alameda Unified 6110779 Bay Farm Elementary). Other terms are defined in the Guidelines to the RFF.

** II/USP (Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program) designates involvement in California's education improvement program; CSRD (Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration) designates involvement in the federal education improvement program; IASA (Improving America's Schools Act) schoolwide projects refers to Title I schools that develop a schoolwide plan for education improvement rather than focusing services on individually identified students.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

School Readiness Programs Application

Name/Title	Signature (Optional)	Agency and Address	Phone/Email
Whittier State Preschool	Gladys Green	NMUSD 1800 Whittier Ave. Costa Mesa, Ca. 92627	(949) 515-6819
Campus Catering	Richard Greene	2985 Bear Street Costa Mesa, Ca. 92626	714-424-5094
YMCA	Adrienne Stokels	13821 Newport Avenue Suite 200 Tustin, CA 92780	714-549-9622
Families Costa Mesa (SOS, WIC)	Leda Albright	779 W. 19th Street Suite R Costa Mesa, CA 92627	949- 574-3970
CHOC Mobile Clinic - Children's Hospital Orange County	Kathy Kolodge	455 S Main Street Orange, CA 92868	714-532-8578
Healthy Start	Marcia BMarthaler	2985 Bear Street Costa Mesa, Ca. 92626	714-424-7556
Adult Education	Mike Murphy	425 East 18 th Street Costa Mesa, CA 92627	949-515-6565
Adult Education Infant / Toddler Program	Ines Vicente	NMUSD 1800 Whittier Ave. Costa Mesa, Ca. 92627	949-515-6990
Family Care Providers	Various	Various	Various
Local Preschool and Child Care Collaborative	Various	Various	Various
Community Facilitator Program	Bonnie Swann	2985 Bear Street Costa Mesa, Ca. 92626	

SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM DIRECTORY INFORMATION (SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM PROFILE)

Briefly summarize the major elements of each School Readiness Program (or System). Your summary will provide an overview for reviewers and be included in the School Readiness Programs Directory.

County Commission: Children and Families Commission of Orange County Address: 17320 Redhill Avenue Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614 Phone: 714-796-0464 FAX: 714-834-4790	Contact: Jane Garland Title: School Readiness Facilitator School Readiness Program: Newport-Mesa USD Street: 2985-A Bear Street City/Zip: Costa Mesa, CA 92626 Phone: 714-424-8903 FAX: 714-424-5073 E-Mail: jgarland@nmusd.k12.ca.us
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School District/School	Enrollment	Grades	School District/School	Enrollment	Grades
Whittier	644	K-3			
Wilson	649	K-5			

Community Characteristics	<p>Whittier School serves 644 kindergarten through grade three students, 144 preschool students, and daytime adult education students — the majority are parents of Whittier students. The community consists predominantly of apartment dwellings. Whittier School has a 95% Hispanic population and 79% English language Learners. Over 90% of the Whittier students are learning formal English as well as literacy skills. All Whittier students qualify for the free or reduced lunch program.</p> <p>Wilson School serves 649 students in Kindergarten through grade five. Housing consists of single-family homes, condominiums, and apartment units. Many countries, cultures, and languages are represented at Wilson. Wilson School has 77% of their students enrolled in English Language Learners and 100% of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch program.</p>
Services and Programs (5 Essential and Coordinated Elements)	<p>1. Early care and education services with kindergarten transition program -State preschool program at Whittier serving 144 children, Wilson preschool program serving 48 children and NMUSD Kindergarten registration specialist. 10 infant/toddler children</p> <p>2. Parenting/Family Support Services -YMCA and Families Costa Mesa, NMUSD Counselors.</p> <p>3. Health and Social Services -Healthy Start, CHOC Mobile Clinic, Nutritionist.</p> <p>4. Schools capacity to prepare children and families for school success -HOPE School Readiness Center - Health, Opportunities, Preparation and Education.</p> <p>5. Program Infrastructure, Administration and Evaluation - Early Childhood Education Director and NMUSD Assessment Team.</p>
Collaborative Partners	<p>♦ State Preschool Program ♦ Campus Catering (Nutrition) ♦ YMCA ♦ Children's Hospital Orange County ♦ Healthy Start ♦ Families Costa Mesa Resource Center ♦ NMUSD Adult Education ♦ Infant Toddler Care ♦ Save Our Selves (SOS) ♦ WIC ♦ Community Facilitator Program ♦ NAEYC Early Steps To Reading Success Program</p>

Narrative Description of Phase 1 School Readiness Program (or System)

A “description” that addresses the questions listed in this section is needed for: **a) each School Readiness Program in the county application, and/or b) a district or countywide system with school/community descriptors for each participating school (questions 1.b. and c. and 2.c. below)** that deliver the 5 ‘Essential and Coordinated Elements’ and that meet fiscal and quality requirements. Each participating County Commission may submit one combined application that includes “descriptions” and budgets for the proposed Phase 1 School Readiness Programs (and/or System). *Consult the “Guidelines and Tools for Completing a School Readiness Program Application” for full instructions on how to prepare your program narrative.*

1. PROGRAM/SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

- a. *Provide an overview of the School Readiness Program/System, including communities to be served.*

NMUSD - HOPE School Readiness Program

NMUSD kindergarten teachers consider 40% of all children entering kindergarten — not ready for school. The skills needed most are Social: listening and thinking, Language: conversation and reading and Developmental: maturation.

The NMUSD vision to address school readiness is the **HOPE** School Readiness Program which will assure that all children have the “ingredients” needed to succeed in school: information, empowered families, educational opportunities, preventive health care and language and literacy skills. This program will serve Whittier and Wilson School communities as well as the entire Newport Mesa Unified School District.

HOPE stands for:

**Health
Opportunities
Preparation
Education**

8 Components of the HOPE Center



The eight components of the Hope School Readiness Program work in concert with one another.

The Coordinator of the HOPE School Readiness Resource Center manages the **Resource Center Component** and coordinates the other components of the program including establishing curriculum, guidelines and assessment strategies for preschool programming, serving as a resource for local providers to obtain ideas, curriculum materials and assessment tools, arranging trainings for outreach efforts to parents and local preschool programs and serving as the liaison to the **Technology Component**.

The **Healthy Start and Family Support Components** focus on access and referral to pediatric services and immunizations, access and referral to vision, hearing and dental screening and a healthy living program including parenting classes and counseling.

The NMUSD **Preschool Program Component** follows the California Pre K Guidelines and a Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum focusing on getting all children ready for school. The curriculum centers on physical well-being, motor skills development, social development, language development, cognitive and general knowledge and approaches towards learning. The staff works closely with the **Child Assessment and Kindergarten Registration Component**.

The HOPE School Readiness Program, under the leadership of the School Readiness Director manages the District's efforts to align preschool and kindergarten curriculum with District goals and state performance standards toward the end of increasing student performance, oversees the implementation of curriculum programs at all school sites with kindergarten and preschool programs, provides leadership to the District's efforts to increase school readiness for kindergarten, successful completion of first grade and ability to read by the third grade and promotes parental involvement that supports child development and learning. The Director also serves as the district liaison to the **Adult Education Component**.

The **Public Awareness Component** fosters collaboration and advocates for systemic reform and investing in children, provides data and information to policymakers, the public and the media about the need to invest in children and monitors legislation & administrative decisions impacting children.

b. *What are the strengths and needs of the families and communities served by the targeted schools?*

Whittier School serves 644 kindergarten through grade three students, 144 preschool students, and daytime adult education students; the majority are parents of Whittier students. The community consists predominantly of apartment dwellings. Whittier School has a 95% Hispanic population, 79% are English language Learners and 91% of the students are learning formal English as well as literacy skills. All of the students qualify for the free or reduced lunch program. Whittier school mission "***Learning for All, Whatever it Takes***" provides a community wide focus.

Wilson School serves 649 students in Kindergarten through grade five. Wilson School has 77% of their students enrolled in English Language Learners and all of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch program. Housing consists of single-family homes, condominiums, and apartment units. Many countries, cultures, and languages are represented at Wilson. Wilson School vision is to "Dream Bigger, Work Smarter, and Go Farther Than You Can Imagine".

Both schools are community schools that integrate Adult Education, parenting programs and at Whittier an Infant/Toddler program into their school communities. Both schools have a Community Facilitator attached to them whose primary function is to facilitate communication and help families locate needed services. These school communities are both underserved by preschool and childcare providers. The only state preschool in the area has a very long waiting list.

c. *What results are expected for children and families?*

This HOPE School Readiness Program is intended to:

Early Care And Education Services With Kindergarten Transition Program

- Increase the number of children receiving preschool services
- Increase the number of preschool and kindergarten transition programs conducted through child care providers/schools/family partnerships

Parenting/Family Support Services

- Increase parents' knowledge of developing children's cognitive skills, especially for parents of children who are not in licensed care.

Health and Social Services

- Increase the number of children who receive mental health and developmental screenings and appropriate referral services.

Schools Capacity To Prepare Children And Families For School Success

- Increase school readiness for kindergarten, successful completion of first grade and ability to read by the third grade
- Increase the availability and use of family literacy programs.

Program Infrastructure, Administration and Evaluation

- Increase the number of childcare providers that receive training about school readiness
- Increase the availability and use of libraries, books and other learning resources.

2. **SERVICES AND PARTNERS**

a. *What strategies and partners are currently in place that address the 5 "Essential and Coordinated Elements"?*

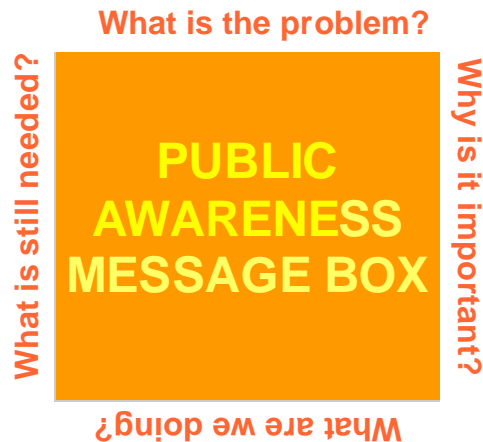
- **Early Care And Education Services With Kindergarten Transition Program** - Whittier State preschool program serving 144 children
- **Parenting/Family Support Services** - YMCA and Families Costa Mesa
- **Health and Social Services** - Healthy Start
- **Schools Capacity To Prepare Children And Families For School Success** - Community Facilitators
- **Program Infrastructure, Administration and Evaluation** - Preschool Director and Staff at Whittier School

b. *What new strategies and partners will be implemented to further address or expand/enhance the 5 "Essential and Coordinated Elements"?*

- **Early Care And Education Services With Kindergarten Transition Program** - Wilson Preschool Program serving 48 children, Infant/Toddler Teacher and NMUSD Kindergarten registration specialist
- **Parenting/Family Support Services** - NMUSD Counselors
- **Health and Social Services** - CHOC Mobile Clinic, Nurse .5, Nutritionist
- **Program Infrastructure, Administration and Evaluation** – School Readiness Director and NMUSD Assessment Team - NMUSD School Readiness Director who will bridge the gap between NMUSD's 88+ Kindergarten Educators, 19+ (by 2004) On-Site District Preschool Programs and 75+ plus local Preschool Programs and Family Care Providers. This position will direct the District's efforts to align preschool and kindergarten curriculum with District goals and state performance

standards toward the end of increasing student performance, oversee the implementation of curriculum programs at all school sites with kindergarten and preschool programs, provide leadership to the Districts efforts to increase school readiness for kindergarten, successful completion of first grade and ability to read by the third grade, and promote parental involvement that supports child development and learning.

The program infrastructure is also addressed through our Public Awareness Campaign, which is aimed at getting the message out to the community regarding the importance of early care and education and children's development from birth to five.



c. *What are the specific roles and commitments provided by the participating schools?*

The HOPE School Readiness Program will work closely with the Whittier and Wilson elementary schools as well as the community at large to ensure that efforts to reach our most needy children are not duplicated. The NMUSD School Readiness Facilitator will work with the Orange County Department of Education and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County on educational reform issues and integrating experts and new policies into the program.

NMUSD, Whittier and Wilson Schools are committed to serving our most needy children from our underserved areas through assuring improved programs and access for children and their families from diverse backgrounds.

d. *How will coordination/integration of current and new services and resources for this School Readiness Program/System be addressed and supported?*

The County Commission and the NMUSD Advisory Committee have been and will continue to be integral in planning, designing and implementing the establishment of the HOPE School Readiness program.

The Advisory Committee consists of individuals from the early care and education system, preschool intervention program, local preschool programs, family care providers, adult education program, health services, nutrition program, technology services and social services.

3. OPERATIONS

a. How has/will collaborative planning and decision making be accomplished?

Continued involvement of the Advisory Committee as well as Board Representation on Families Costa Mesa, FACT Steering Committee, Costa Mesa Youth Services and Child Care Committee and Costa Mesa Cares. This will be enhanced by continued collaboration with our local Preschool and Family Care Providers and MOUs and Contracts with our local social service providers.

b. How does your staffing and professional development support the results and strategies for the 5 “Essential and Coordinated Elements” for the children and families to be served?

Our staff meets or exceeds the qualifications for CA state preschool staffing. Our current preschool staff is 66% bilingual and culturally diverse. Staff training is on going and an integral component of our district wide staff development program. The preschool staff will participate in the NAEYC Early Steps to Reading Success Program as well as other training offered by county and state organizations. The preschool staff will continue to partner with the NMUSD Preschool Intervention Program as well as the two local Head Start programs.

NMUSD - HOPE School Readiness Program
NMUSD - HOPE School Readiness Program
Health, Opportunity, Preparation, and Education

Budget Breakdown

Early Care And Education Services With Kindergarten Transition Program	
Wilson Preschool Site for 48 Children	\$200,000
Whittier Preschool Equipment, Supplies and Materials	\$25,000
Infant Toddler Room Supervising Teacher	\$45,000
Parenting/Family Support Services	
Counselors	\$15,000
Health And Social Services	
½ Nurse	\$50,000
Schools Capacity To Prepare Children And Families For School Success	
Readiness Center Equipment, Supplies and Materials	\$50,000
Program Infrastructure, Administration And Evaluation	
PR Materials (Duplications, PSAs, Billboards)	\$10,000
Total	\$495,000

In-Kind:
School Readiness Director
Whittier State Preschool – serving 144 children
Nutritionist .25 – Campus Catering
CHOC Mobile Health Van – 2nd and 4th Thursday
Adult Education – 290 students in Language Classes
Infant/Toddler – Parent Interactive Care Center
Families Costa Mesa – Parenting Classes
Literacy – Early Steps To Reading Success
SOS – Food, Shelter, Medical
WIC – Information and Classes
YMCA – Parenting Classes and Teacher Training

This budget is an extremely cost effective use of funds for children 0-5 and their families. This budget lets NMUSD reach our preschool population, our preschool programs, family care providers and Kindergarten teachers and also directly serve 188 preschool children and improve the NMUSD Infant/Toddler program.

NMUSD - HOPE School Readiness Program Profile

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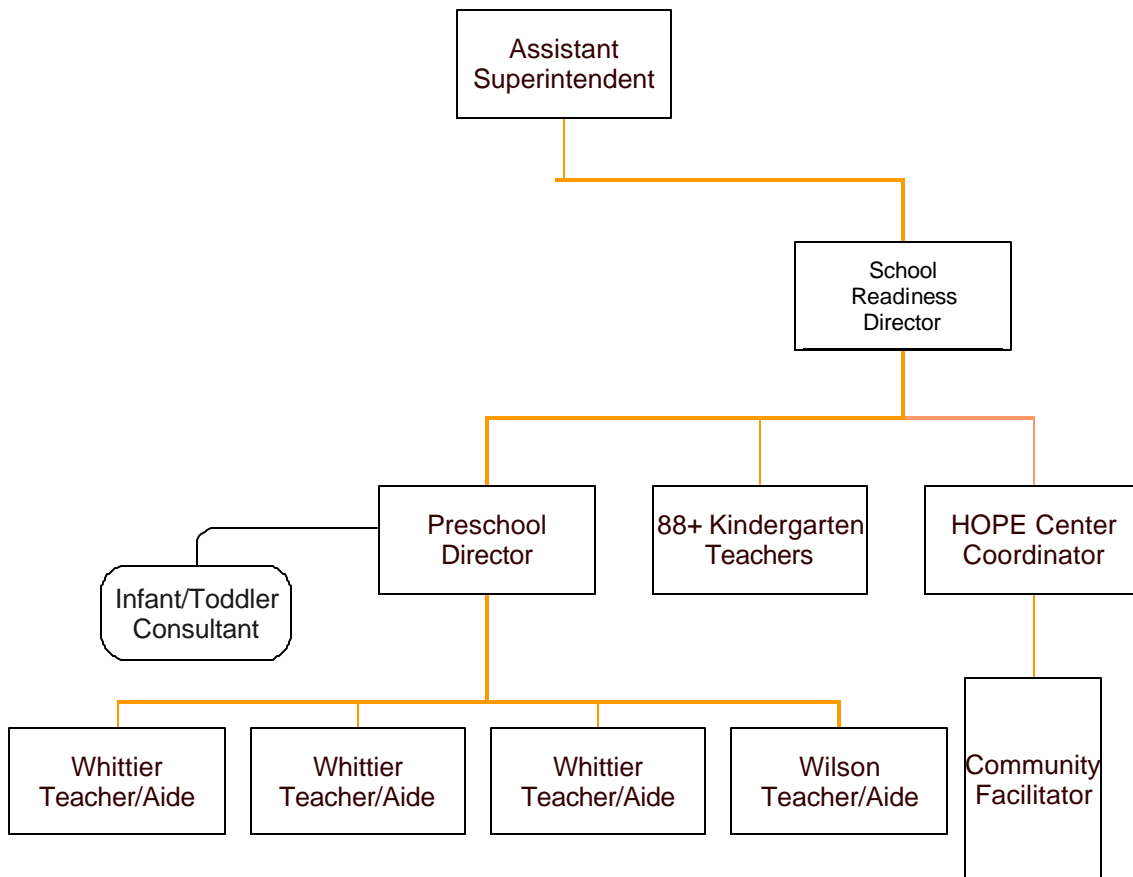
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NMUSD – HOPE School Readiness Center Organizational Chart

HOPE School Readiness Program



Newport Mesa Unified School District

1. Please explain how the School Readiness Program will address assessments, promising practices, and service and follow-up for children with special needs.

Newport Mesa Unified School District has both a State Preschool Program and a Preschool Intervention Program. Our teachers including teachers of special needs children assess children in the district preschool as well as children throughout the district. Based upon assessment, teacher observation and parental input children in need are referred to our Preschool Intervention Program (PIP).

The additional components that will be added to our School Readiness Program through the Children and Families Commission i.e., Infant/Toddler Teacher, HOPE Center Coordinator and an additional preschool site will help the district identify special needs children sooner and thereby serve them at an earlier age.

NMUSD also plans to implement an on-line interactive service that will broadcast promising practices and other information to parents and providers via video streaming. This will help parents and local providers be able to self assess and refer children to needed services.

2. Please describe how the School Readiness Program will involve parents in the planning and ongoing development of the services, as well as with addressing the cultural and linguistic diversity of the families.

NMUSD has a School Readiness Parent Advisory Board in place that evaluates the current program. This Parent Board will be increased in size with the addition of our new site. The parents, who are predominately Latino and Spanish speaking organize cultural events for the School Readiness Program. Two parents serve on the School Readiness Leadership Team and act as the liaisons meeting with preschool staff and parents. This group surveys parents regarding parent/staff relationships, parenting and nutrition classes and kindergarten registration. The information gleaned from this survey is used to improve communication between parents and staff as well as between parents and the NMUSD Kindergarten program.

The NMUSD School Readiness Coordinator meets monthly with the Harbor Council Parent Teacher Association, and also with the individual school Parent Teacher Associations, and English Language Learner Advisory Committees (ELAC) as well as with the District English Language Advisory Committee (DELAC).

3. Please address the methods planned for assessing staff development needs and for ongoing coordination with community resources.

NMUSD has a Professional Growth Program in place for all staff members — this includes specific days set aside for classes and group discussions. The preschool staff also evaluates their own needs and attends conferences and classes e.g., first aide training to help them meet their needs.

Staff of the YMCA, Family Resource Center and Children's Hospital Mobile Health Van also assists the School Readiness Program by addressing issues such as behavior, parenting, nutrition, physical education and mental and physical health.

The soon to be created HOPE Center Coordinator position will be the responsible for curriculum development, best practices, assessment, and training. This position will:

❖ Coordinate the **Health, Opportunity, Preparation, and Education** components of the **HOPE Center for School Readiness Program** (Preschools, Infant/Toddler Interactive Center, CHOC

Mobile Van, Healthy Start Clinic, Counseling, Parenting, Assessment, Kindergarten Registration, and Adult Education Program

- ❖ Establish the development of exemplary practices for school readiness
- ❖ Coordinate the District efforts to align preschool and kindergarten curriculum with District goals and state performance standards toward the end of increasing student performance
- ❖ Establish and oversee implementation of curriculum, guidelines and assessment strategies for NMUSD preschool programs
- ❖ Promote parental involvement that supports child development and learning
- ❖ Serve as a resource for local providers to obtain curriculum materials, assessment tools etc.
- ❖ Arrange trainings and other outreach efforts for parents and local preschool providers on curriculum, best practices, parenting etc.
- ❖ Coordinate the video-streaming component (lessons and best-practices) of the School Readiness Program (Project Depends on Funding)

The HOPE School Readiness Coordinator will assess community needs through surveys, focus groups and meetings as well as through assessments made during visitations to local programs.

4. Please explain the process planned for collaborative administration and governance strategies across agencies.

A collaborative advisory team consisting of staff of the School Readiness Program, Orange County YMCA, Head Start Centers, NMUSD Adult Education, Families Costa Mesa and the CHOC Mobile Health Van will be organized to address strategies across agencies.

NMUSD has working relationships, partnerships and collaborations with these groups already in place e.g., NMUSD; Gladys Green and TBD Coordinator, YMCA; Adrienne Stokels and Laura Munoz, Head Start; Lynn Bach and Rose Alvarez, Adult Education Michael Murphy and Ines Vincent, Families Costa Mesa; Leda Albright and Gil Carmona, CHOC Health Mobile; Sylvia Amato and Kathy Kolodge.

The NMUSD School Readiness Coordinator will facilitate this team and recommendations for changes to or improvements of services will go to the Superintendent and Board of Education for review and possible action.